Harold Weisberg
Rt. 8, Frederick, Md. 21701
2/27/74

Dear Ms. Elman,

Later in the day I will try to phone you. My day may well begin before you go to sleep. I will be going to the post office early and mailing this then will save a day, However, the last several times I tried to phone the call was not accepted.

If you are serious, in the specific inquiry you made of me and in the generalities in which you described your people, then I do think there should have been more communication between us.

I have two specific reasons for trying to establish communication now.

I am getting competitive offers and among the countless materials I told you I do have one is currently as hot as it can be and I see movie potential in it. Having no choice I am having to listen to those who can offer least. And do least.

Yesterday evening I had a call from one who is working on a film competitive with your project. I asked him if he were associated with you, he said he was not and that you and Ed Lewis are one, and he said of Lewis what I would not describe as kind things.

Now it happens that I believe Ed Lewis and an old friend of mine are friends. And I had asked this friend of mine to represent me in matters like this. He is in England so at the moment he cannot. We will be getting together when he returns. The man who phoned me is to be here at about that time. At the time Executive Action came out my friend said he ought to get Lewis and me together but it was not then possible and it has not been since.

In mid-April it may not be a question of my preferences but of my options.

Late last night a southern editor got me out of bed to talk about the large extent of materials I have relative to the wave of kidnappings. He is to get back to me by the end of the week. My needs are such that if I get a decent offer I will have to accept it. I may thus lose the rights to a great amount of work extending over much of my lifetime, work that I think can make a fantastic movie about the para-military right. I am loaded with FBI and Secret Service reports and other official and entirely unused studies of these very dangerous dedicated wrong-headed. And with my own work, which includes numerous taped interviews with some of them. These nuts even have private armies. I have the complete training manuals of some, larger in volume than several books and as professional as possible.

My expertise in native fascism goes back to the days of The Hollywood Ten, one of whose number borrowed the documentary research for a book and never returned it. And even before that I gave the FBI evidence of a plan to overthrow the government. Going back to those days I have an entire file cabinet of material. I resumed this research ten years ago with my work on the assassinations.

Your people may or may not see in it and the current horrors what I do. As of this minute I have no way of knowing. If they do and I have to accept newspapers offers we may both be the losers.

If any of your people are to be near here anytime soon, I do believe both our interests would be served if we could get together and talk.

In haste,

Harold Weisberg